

# WEATHER & CROPS

Month: April 18 - 24, 2005

Number: 7

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## CROP SUMMARY FOR WEEK ENDING APRIL 24, 2005

The Commonwealth of Virginia experienced unseasonably warm temperatures during the first part of the week. But the weekend brought along unseasonably cool temperatures, rain showers, and even snow in some parts of the state. Days suitable for fieldwork were 5.0. Corn planting advanced rapidly. Corn for Grain Planted Progress increased from 18% planted last week to 35% planted this week. Some farmers were able to begin tillage for full season soybeans. In some areas of the state, early strawberries were able to be picked for market and vegetables were in the process of being transplanted. Farmers were able to continue applying fertilizers on forage fields. Small grain stands are beginning to grow rapidly but the adult cereal leaf beetles were becoming active. The cool weather and rain showers slowed forage growth in some areas and damaged some vegetable crops in other areas. Other farming activities included calving, lambing, fencing, cattle processing, scouting and spraying small grains for insects and disease, and getting ready to plant tobacco next week.

### TOPSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT

Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
April 3, 2005	0	1	51	48
April 10, 2005	0	1	61	38
April 17, 2005	1	5	66	28
April 24, 2005	0	7	75	18

### CROP CONDITION PERCENT

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pastures	1	4	29	55	11
Livestock	0	2	21	66	11
Hay, (other)	1	2	37	57	3
Hay, (alfalfa)	0	4	35	55	6
Winter Wheat	2	9	20	55	14
Barley	2	5	23	54	16
Tobacco Greenhouse	0	0	6	71	23
Summer Potatoes	5	15	45	30	5
Apples, (all)	0	0	32	68	0
Peaches	0	4	38	54	4
Grapes	0	0	32	63	5

### CROP PROGRESS PERCENT - WITH COMPARISONS

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Average
Corn for Grain Planted	35	18	39	38
Corn for Grain Emerged	6	3	NA	NA
Winter Wheat Headed	5	1	8	NA
Cotton Planted	9	3	NA	NA
Summer Potatoes Planted	91	77	94	97

Weather Summary for the Week Ending April 24, 2005							
Weather Station	Temperature (degrees Fahrenheit)				Precipitation (inches)		
	HI	LO	Average	Departure From Normal	TOTAL	Departure From Normal	Days
NORTHERN							
Woodstock	83	30	58	3	0.84	0.21	2
The Plains	85	35	59	4	1.21	0.44	4
Winchester 7 SE	85	36	59	6	0.60	-0.12	3
Dale Enterprise	83	29	58	4	0.97	0.37	3
WESTERN							
Glasgow	85	33	61	5	0.86	0.18	2
Roanoke AP	83	37	63	7	0.80	0.03	3
Waynesboro	81	32	58	6	1.40	0.73	3
Staunton AG	82	34	60	7	1.10	0.43	4
CENTRAL							
Somerset	85	36	60	5	0.94	0.21	3
Piedmont Res ST	86	41	62	7	0.66	-0.07	3
Bremo Bluff	90	25	61	4	0.94	0.24	3
Richmond AP	89	42	65	7	0.52	-0.18	2
EASTERN							
Eastville	85	42	62	5	0.75	0.14	3
Wallops Island	85	46	61	4	0.21	-0.30	2
Williamsburg	88	43	64	6	0.63	-0.06	2
Keysville	90	33	65	9	0.60	-0.13	4
SOUTHWESTERN							
Blacksburg AG	77	28	57	5	0.35	-0.49	1
Wytheville	77	29	55	5	0.50	-0.25	2
Saltville	79	30	57	5	1.04	0.17	3
Richlands	78	28	57	9	1.23	0.38	3
SOUTHERN							
Stuart	84	36	63	7	1.02	0.04	4
Danville AG	86	34	63	5	0.41	-0.35	2
Chatham	85	28	60	5	0.45	-0.36	2
Martinsville	83	27	58	4	0.28	-0.56	3
SOUTHEASTERN							
Norfolk VA	88	45	65	7	0.71	0.01	3
Oceana	87	43	65	7	0.40	-0.23	3
Emporia	87	37	64	7	0.03	-0.67	1
Newport News	90	47	67	9	0.53	-0.17	3

Departure from Normal based on 1961-90 Normals.  
Precipitation Days=Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more.